

## Message Text

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64

ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EB-07 /020 W  
----- 055705

R 091435Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6485

INFO AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

UNCLAS GABORONE 0488

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, BC

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF OPIC CONSULTANT RICHARD G. LEONARD

REFERENCE: STATE 078832

1. EMBASSY WELCOMES VISIT BY OPIC CONSULTANT RICHARD LEONARD. RESERVATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE AT THE HOLIDAY INN, GABORONE, FOR THE NIGHTS MAY 1 - 6.
2. EMBASSY HAS APPROACHED BOTSWANA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION REGARDING VISIT. THEY WILL BE GLAD TO SEE LEONARD AND EXPECT TO SPEND A GOOD DEAL OF TIME WITH HIM MAY 1 AND 2. THEY WILL ALSO ASSIST IN MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR OTHER ACTIVITIES WHICH MAY BE DEVELOPED DURING INITIAL DISCUSSIONS.
3. BDC PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN GM PLUG ASSEMBLY PLANT WHICH IS NEW TO THEM.
4. H.H. ROBERTS AND COMPANY HAS ALREADY BEGUN NEGOTIATIONS TO LEASE FOUR SECTIONS OF NEW BROADHURST INDUSTRIAL ESTATE IN GABORONE AND BDC WILL BE INTERESTED TO HEAR WHAT ADDITIONAL PROJECTS MAY BE ENVISAGED.

5. BDC WOULD BE PLEASED IF LEONARD COULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS

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THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL PROJECTS.:

(A) BICYCLES: AS A RESULT OF EARLIER HENDERSON/FREEMAN VISIT AND BICYCLE PROJECT PREPARED BY EMBASSY GABORONE, BDC HAS RECEIVED A LETTER FROM JAMES BROWN OF WORLDWIDE WHEELS, 515 SARATOGA ROAD, SCOTIA, NEW YORK, PHONE: (518)399-4106. MR BROWN INDICATED INTEREST IN FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ON BICYCLE ASSEMBLY IN BOTSWANA.

(B) CEMENT PLANT

(C) CERAMICS

(D) FOODWEAR MANUFACTURING

(E) SOAP AND DETERGENT MANUFACTURING: TALLOW AND GELATIN ARE AVAILABLE FROM BOTSWANA MEAT COMMISSION ABBATOIR IN LOBATSE.

(F) RADIO ASSEMBLY PLANT: DISCUSSIONS ARE ALREADY IN PROGRESS WITH PHILLIPS AND ONE OTHER EUROPEAN FIRM.

(G) TANNERY: FOR TANNING PAST WET- BLUE STAGE

(H) CANDY MANUFACTURING: BOTSWANA HSS SUGAR AVAILABLE FROM RHODESIA AT VERY COMPETITIVE PRICE, GIVING BOTSWANA COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE.

(I) PAINT MANUFACTURING

(J) PHARMACEUTICAL PROCESSING, BULK IMPORTS AND TABLET AND CAPSULE PACKAGING

(K) ENAMEL WEAR

6. PRESUME LEONARD ALSO INTERESTED IN DISCUSSIONS WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS REGARDING DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SUA PAN SODA ASH AND COMMERCIAL CATTLE RANCHING SECTORS.

7. LEONARD'S ARRIVAL COINCIDES WITH BEGINNING OF FOUR-DAY VISIT OF 40 MAN STRONG NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE STUDY GROUP, SO EMBASSY MAY BE SOMEWHAT PREOCCUPIED DURING FIRST FEW DAYS OF HIS STAY.  
BOLEN

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